NEWS RELEASE



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LAURIER EXPERT ALERT: Natural Disasters

WATERLOO – From hurricanes Maria, Irma and Harvey to floods in areas ranging from India to Italy; from the earthquakes in Mexico to wildfires in Western Canada, the world has recently seen a spate of natural disasters from which recovery will be difficult and time-consuming.

The following Laurier experts are available to comment on various dimensions of natural disasters, such as evacuations, rebuilding, climate change, human migration, insurance and ethics:

Brenda Murphy, a professor in Laurier's Social and Environmental Justice program as well as a graduate faculty member for Geography and Social Justice and Community Engagement, is an expert in emergency management, evacuations and disaster mitigation, particularly in relation to climate change and in rural and Indigenous communities. Contact: bmurphy@wlu.ca

<u>Simon Dalby</u>, a professor in Laurier's Department of Geography and Environmental Studies and Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI) Chair in the Political Economy of Climate Change, is an expert on climate change and governance and has written about natural disasters. Contact: sdalby@gmail.com

<u>Robert McLeman</u>, an associate professor in Laurier's Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, is an expert on the human dimensions of climate change, the relationship between environment and human migration; and community adaptation to climatic variability and change. Contact: rmcleman@wlu.ca

<u>Mary Kelly</u>, a professor of finance and Chair in Insurance at Laurier's Lazaridis School of Business and Economics, is an expert in risk management and property/casualty insurance. Contact: <u>mkelly@wlu.ca</u> or 519-884-0710 ext. 2551.

<u>Audra Mitchell</u>, CIGI Chair in Global Governance and Ethics at the Balsillie School of International Affairs and an associate professor in Laurier's Department of Political Science, is an expert on global ethics as it relates to emerging ecological and/or technological challenges, including mass extinction and climate change. Contact: amitchell@balsillieschool.ca